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Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
Committee on Information and Communications Technology

Fourth session
Bangkok, 14-16 October 2014

Annotated provisional agenda

The present document contains the provisional agenda for the fourth session of the Committee on Information and Communications Technology (section I) and the annotations to the provisional agenda (section II), which provide the key directions for the deliberations of the Committee.

I. Provisional agenda

1. Opening of the session:
   - (a) Opening statements;
   - (b) Election of officers;
   - (c) Adoption of the agenda.
2. Asian Information Superhighway: seamless connectivity for sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific.
3. Harnessing cross-sectoral infrastructure synergies.
4. Measuring progress: the digital divide and review of targets of the World Summit on the Information Society.
5. Regional capacity-building on information and communications technology for development.
6. Information and communications technology as critical infrastructure for enhanced e-resilience and disaster risk management.
7. Consideration of the future focus of the subprogramme.
8. Consideration of possible draft resolutions for submission to the Commission at its seventy-first session.
9. Dates, venue and provisional agenda for the fifth session of the Committee.
10. Other matters.
11. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its fourth session.
12. Closing of the session.

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II. Annotations

1. Opening of the session

(a) Opening statements

Documentation

Tentative programme (E/ESCAP/CICT(4)/INF/3)

Annotation

The tentative programme for the opening session will be issued in due course.

(b) Election of officers

Documentation

List of participants (E/ESCAP/CICT(4)/INF/2)

Annotation

The Committee will elect a chair and two vice-chairs.

(c) Adoption of the agenda

Documentation

Annotated provisional agenda (E/ESCAP/CICT(4)/L.1)

Annotation

The annotated provisional agenda will be considered and adopted by the Committee, subject to such changes as may be deemed necessary.

2. Asian Information Superhighway: seamless connectivity for sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific

Documentation

Asian Information Superhighway: seamless connectivity for sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific (E/ESCAP/CICT(4)/1)

Annotation

The Committee will have before it a secretariat document in which the role of information and communications technology infrastructure in delivering affordable and reliable broadband Internet across the region is discussed, and the progress achieved in the ESCAP Asian Information Superhighway initiative is reviewed since the third session of the Committee. In this regard, the note will provide information on the ESCAP/International Telecommunication Union interactive map on information superhighways, and present findings of subregional policy studies that show, inter alia, current configurations of Internet infrastructure in Asia and the Pacific, as well as bottlenecks in international connectivity experienced by the region. The note will contain proposed ways in which pan-Asian Internet infrastructure, achieved in a cohesive manner and based on international principles and norms, can increase the availability and affordability of

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broadband Internet for all throughout the region. Special attention will be given to enhancing connectivity for landlocked developing countries, least developed countries and Pacific island countries.

The Committee will be invited to consider these issues. Furthermore, in implementation of Commission resolution 69/10, in which the secretariat is requested to work towards a regional framework for action that strengthens policymaking processes related to ICT for inclusive and sustainable development, the Committee will be invited to consider and endorse the recommendations contained in the document related to developing principles and norms for a seamless information and communication space.

Deliberations under this agenda item will take the form of a panel discussion followed by an open discussion.

3. Harnessing cross-sectoral infrastructure synergies

Documentation

Harnessing cross-sectoral infrastructure synergies (E/ESCAP/CTR(4)/2) and (E/ESCAP/CICT/(4)/2)

Annotation

Under the above agenda item, the Information and Communications Technology and Transport committees will have a joint session to consider matters pertaining to ICT and transport in the context of harnessing cross-sectoral infrastructure synergies.

The Committees will have before them a secretariat document that reviews initiatives and provides possible solutions to synchronizing the planning, construction and deployment of infrastructure in the ICT and transport sectors, as a means of saving costs, increasing efficiency and enhancing e-resilience. They will also have before them a note reviewing the conditions under which ICT policies could contribute to intelligent transport systems for sustainable development, and the opportunities to leverage ICT to improve the efficiencies in trade and transport facilitation systems.

The Committees will be invited to reflect on country experiences and propose policy actions and regional cooperation measures that may promote cross-sectoral infrastructure synergies in the context of ICT and transport for sustainable development. Deliberations under this agenda item will take the form of a panel discussion followed by an open discussion.

4. Measuring progress: the digital divide and review of targets of the World Summit on the Information Society

Documentation

Measuring progress: the digital divide and review of targets of the World Summit on the Information Society (E/ESCAP/CICT(4)/3)

Annotation

A decade after the targets of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) were agreed by the international community, regional and global progress towards the targets is being reviewed in order to identify good practices and develop the way forward for the WSIS process.

The Committee will have before it a secretariat document that reviews the progress in implementing the outcomes of the World Summit on the Information Society in the ESCAP region. The document examines good practices and considers ways forward for the WSIS process in the context of the evolving development agenda beyond 2015. In addition, the document will contain an examination of emerging issues for statistical measurement, such as gender-differentiated ICT statistics.

The Committee may wish provide regional perspectives for the upcoming 10-year review by the Commission on Science and Technology for Development on the outcome of WSIS, in the context of the collaboration between ESCAP and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development. The agenda item will be introduced by the secretariat, followed by an open discussion.

5. Regional capacity-building on information and communications technology for development

Documentation

Report of the Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information and Communication Technology for Development on its activities during the period 2012-2014 (E/ESCAP/CICT(4)/4)

Annotation

The Committee will have before it a report submitted by the Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information and Communication Technology for Development (APCICT), which contains a discussion of the Centre's programmes and activities related to building human and institutional capacity in using ICT for socioeconomic development. The agenda item will be introduced by the secretariat, followed by an open discussion.

6. Information and communications technology as critical infrastructure for enhanced e-resilience and disaster risk management

Documentation

Information and communications technology as critical infrastructure for enhanced e-resilience and disaster risk management (E/ESCAP/CICT(4)/5)

Annotation

As ICT becomes ever more important in the domestic and regional economies of Asia and the Pacific, and disasters become more frequent and intense, the topic of e-resilience has taken on strategic significance. The Committee will have before it a secretariat document that contains a review of national initiatives, lessons learned and good practices aimed at strengthening e-resilience, including strategies to incorporate redundancy and ICT network resilience into disaster management planning. Case studies on ICT as critical infrastructure for disaster risk management, including the use of space technology applications, social media and crowdsourcing, will also be examined.

The Committee will be invited to reflect on country experiences and propose policy actions that may promote ICT as critical infrastructure for enhanced e-resilience and disaster risk management. The agenda item will be introduced by the secretariat, followed by an open discussion.

7. Consideration of the future focus of the subprogramme

Under this agenda item, the Committee may wish to provide the secretariat with guidance on the focus of its short- and long-term work in the area of ICT, taking into account the programme direction and priorities outlined in the proposed strategic framework for the period 2016-2017 (A/69/6 (Prog. 16)); (see also E/ESCAP/70/21 and Add.1). The Committee may also wish to provide the secretariat with guidance to enable full integration of the outcome of the deliberations into the planning of the strategic framework and programme of work for 2016-2017.

8. Consideration of possible draft resolutions for submission to the Commission at its seventy-first session

Under this agenda item, member States may wish to circulate, in advance, proposals and/or text of draft resolutions on priority issues relating to ICT connectivity for the consideration of the Commission at its seventy-first session.

9. Dates, venue and provisional agenda for the fifth session of the Committee

The Committee may wish to deliberate on the tentative dates, venue and provisional agenda for the fifth session of the Committee, to be held in 2016.

10. Other matters

The Committee may raise any matter not covered under the items mentioned above.

11. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its fourth session

Documentation

Draft report (E/ESCAP/CICT(4)/L.2)

Annotation

The Committee will adopt the report on its fourth session for submission to the Commission at its seventy-first session, to be held in 2015.

12. Closing of the session

Closing statements will be delivered.